

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. Grebenac is one of the prevalently Rumanian villages in Bela Crkva District in the Banat. About 400 families, all of them farmers, live there and they are all Rumanian except for one Hungarian family, one German family, and two Serbian families who were expelled from Croatia during the last war and who are now the only Communists in the village. All of these farmers are independent. There is a gypsy cooperative (kolkhoz) in the village and it has about 90 members.
2. The Bela Crkva District was settled mostly by Rumanians and Germans, but now most of the Germans have been either expelled or have escaped. The Rumanians and Germans got along very well. During the war, the Rumanians had an autonomous status under the German administration of the Banat. The Rumanians had their own schools and several newspapers and cultural organizations. Teachers and professors were mostly from Rumania. Now the Rumanians have elementary schools and one gymnasium in Vrsac and a pro-Regime newspaper called Libertad. The Rumanians feel that they are discriminated against and that although the non-Communist Serbs are also treated badly, the Tito government nevertheless treats the Rumanians worse. A Rumanian is the first to go to prison if something happens.
3. The land belonging to the Germans who left Yugoslavia was given to colonists from Lika, Montenegro, and Dalmatia. An example of this practice can be seen in the village of Susnjara, which used to be completely German. The German farmers had beautiful houses, and they worked the land very well. Other farmers admired them for their work and learned their farming methods. German farmers used machinery and their crops were grain, corn and grapes. After the Germans left, the land in this village was given to colonists from Lika who set up a cooperative (all the colonists have cooperatives). They, however, do not know how to work the land and have let grass grow on fields which

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

S-E-C-R-E-T

- 2 -



25X1

used to be corn fields and vineyards. They keep sheep and goats instead of cows and pigs. The colonists do not even know how to use the existing housing facilities; they build fires on the floor in the middle of the living rooms, they sleep on the floor, they use beds for fuel, etc.



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